

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1916.

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## COTTON GINNINGS INCREASE

AMOUNT PREPARED FOR MAR-

More Than Five Times as Great in  
This State to September 1, 1916, as  
for Last Year.

Washington, S. C. — Cotton of the growth of 1916 ended prior to September 1 amounting to 850,032 bales, or 425,016 half bales, the census bureau today announced in its first preliminary report of the season. That compares with 463,883 bales last year, 480,317 in 1914 and 799,092 in 1913.

Sea Island bales included numbered		
4,631, compared with 2,097 last year		
1,765 in 18914 and 436 in 1912.		
Ginnings by States were:		
States	1916	1915.
Alabama . . . . .	22,373	38,021
Arkansas . . . . .	14,761	37,700
California . . . . .	443	91
Florida . . . . .	2,881	4,701
Georgia . . . . .	212,754	123,400
Louisiana . . . . .	29,780	5,350
Mississippi . . . . .	10,081	4,611
North Carolina . . . . .	289	88
Oklahoma . . . . .	7,777	
South Carolina . . . . .	25,769	4,300
Tennessee . . . . .	120	
Texas . . . . .	732,008	271,333

**CALDWELL BECOMES ADJUTANT**  
Reaches El Paso Camp and Assumes  
His Duties—Ballot Boxes Prepared.

El Paso, Texas, Sept. 8.—Maj. J. Shapter Caldwell has reached the border and assumed his duties as brigade adjutant. He reports a pleasant trip from South Carolina. The ballots for the second primary have reached Lieut. McGowan and boxes have been prepared so that the guardsmen can vote on Tuesday.

**LAURENS TRAGEDY UNFOLDS**

Laurens, Sept. 3.—An inquest was held today over the body of the alleged burglar who was killed last night in a battle with Laurens officers near Fountain Inn. The inquest took place at the scene of the tragedy and the verdict of the jury was to the effect that the person was unknown and came to his death from gunshot wounds at the hands of Columbus L. Owens, rural policeman of

This afternoon the body was brought to the city, prepared for burial and interred in potter's field beside the grave of the yeggman who was killed in Laurens seven years ago.

The story of the shooting last night as brought out at the inquest is substantially as already reported. Thomas was evidently a Cuban of Spanish descent. Among his personal effects were found a money order receipt for \$50 issued at Columbia September 2 and a registered letter receipt from the same office without date.

The latter receipt, number 1847 indicated that the letter was sent by Pruden Ranurez to Sara LAIN D. Ranurez, Matanzas, Cuba, the latter probably being the wife of the man. The stranger was about 30, dark

complexion, dark curly hair, brown eyes, five feet five inches and weighed 130. His body bore several old gunshot wounds. He had a .38-caliber magazine pistol, a razor and two flashlights. He was poorly clad, wearing a dark, heavy overcoat and a dark hat.

Wednesday morning, away after the hours of making calls, five residences in the western part of the city were entered, the thief making a specialty of rifling the trouser pockets of the men of the house. He worked both sides of the street and made a clean getaway with \$75 and \$80. His best prize for the night was a \$51 purse which was extracted from the trouser pocket of one of the city

policemen who had gone off duty a 1 o'clock. The other hauls ranged from \$2 to 21. The burglar disdained the idea of taking anything but the cash, for he left a good watch dangling from a pair of looted trousers which were found hanging in the back yard the next morning. At Gray Court the same game was played Wednesday night, the homes visited including a minister and several prominent citizens of the little town. About \$15 was secured.